



# News Release

## IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

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### **Nez Perce Water Agreement Meeting Scheduled In Challis**

For Immediate Release  
Boise, Idaho – December 6, 2004

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A public meeting will be held Dec. 14 in Challis to discuss the Nez Perce Water Agreement and how it relates to the Pahsimeroi River basin. The meeting will be from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Custer County Soil and Water Conservation District office, 1258 Pleasant Ave., Suite C.

The Nez Perce Water Agreement settles about 150 water rights claims the tribe filed in the Snake River Basin Adjudication (SRBA). As part of the agreement, improved habitat concepts for fish will be developed for the Pahsimeroi that complement the existing minimum stream flow held by the Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB). The agreement says that local citizens must be consulted about proposed actions on these streams.

The meeting will open with a summary presentation of the agreement and how it relates to the Pahsimeroi River basin. Representatives of the parties to the agreement – the Nez Perce Tribe, the State of Idaho and the U.S. Department of the Interior – will be present at the meeting to answer questions.

Following the presentation, participants will have the opportunity to look at maps of the basin and ask questions and make suggestions in an informal workshop.

The IWRB is hosting the meeting. IWRB minimum flow rights are always subordinate to existing prior uses.

More information about the Nez Perce Water Agreement is on the website of the Idaho Department of Water Resources ([www.idwr.idaho.gov](http://www.idwr.idaho.gov)).

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